

Berkeley Primary School

Autumn One October 2024 Reading Newsletter



@BerkeleyPri_Sch

Hello everyone and welcome back. We have had a wonderful start to our school year and, as always, this is a case where reading is concerned. We hope you all have an enjoyable reading year ahead of you here at Berkeley Primary. We can't wait to see what it brings.

Meet our Wonderful Reading Ambassadors!

We are always very lucky with the enthusiasm that our children show when it comes to all things reading. The year 5 children this year have been no exception. We now have nine wonderful new Reading Ambassadors who have been trained and have started working with the year 3 children; to support them not only in their reading journey, but also in the development of their love of reading. We have lots in store for these lovely ambassadors this year and are all very excited.



Here are the proud ambassadors after having received their certificates for taking part in their training. It was already abundantly clear that they will be excellent in their new role and they were so excited and enthusiastic throughout the whole session.

The lovely Sarah Tipler (The Pink Lady!) came in to train our ambassadors and was so impressed by their engagement in the training - as were we!

This was an extra special occasion for one of our Reading Ambassadors in particular as she was someone that was supported by an ambassador herself when she was in year 3. It is lovely to see that her love of reading, as well as her ability, has continued to grow and develop ever since.



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

The Summer Reading Challenge

A huge well done to all of the children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge over the holidays. It always makes us so proud to see the engagement and excitement for reading shine through the children in our school.



Here is the lovely Harper, who we already know loves to read, standing proudly outside the library with her Summer Reading Challenge medal and certificate. Very well done, Harper.



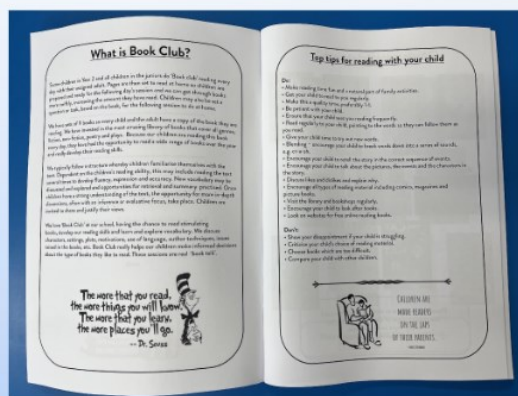
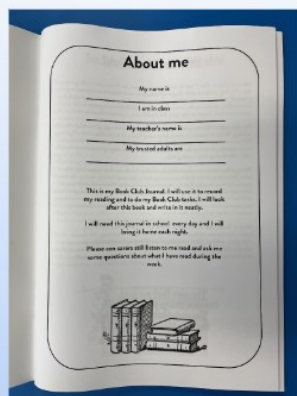
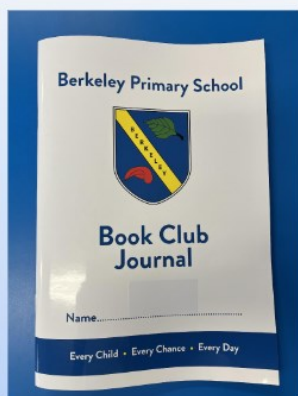
If you would like to take part in the next challenge, please keep your eyes peeled for information coming soon relating to the 'Winter Reading Challenge'. Another exciting opportunity that we can't wait to share with you.

You said ... We did.

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers that were able to complete the Reading for Pleasure parent questionnaire that went out at the end of last year. It is always so helpful to have feedback that we can work on to improve things here at Berkeley. When looking through the responses, we noticed one parent was unsure how to use the Reading Journals to support their children when reading at home. These journals are for the children that take part in Book Club (years 2—6). To support with the understanding of how to use these, we included lots of information in a PowerPoint that has been (and will be) presented in all of the Autumn Inspire Afternoons. This will hopefully clear things up. Please also see below, and on the next page, for a few handy hints to get the best from the journals. As always, if you have any queries please do get in touch with your child's teacher who will be happy to explain how things work.

Our Book Club Reading Journals (Y2 - 6)

One of the comments on our parent reading questionnaire (July, 2024) raised concerns about not fully understanding how to use our Book Club Journals, so we thought we would quickly run through them...



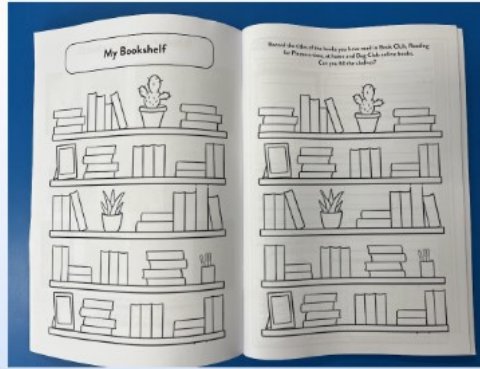
The journals include lots of information, such as describing what Book Club is and how this works at school, as well as handy hints for how to support your child with their reading.

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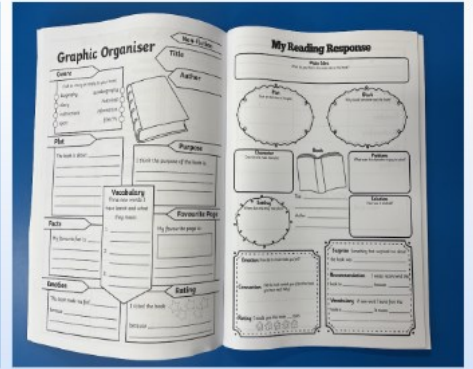
Our Reading Journals



'7 before 7' and '11 before 11' show some wonderful texts that we recommend that the children read or have read to them before the ages of 7 and 11.



Children can colour in the spines each time they read a new book, or write the title, to show how many they are reading in the year.



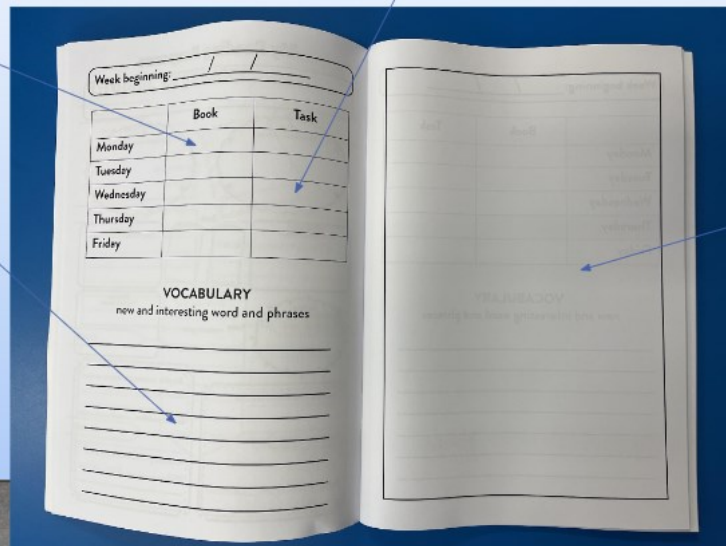
There are a few pages of blank reviews that the children can choose to do when they finish a book, or their teacher may ask them to complete as a task.

The rest of the book is made up of pages like this. The children should be using one page each week.

Book title is recorded here.

This section will tell you what the children either need to do or read at home each evening.

Children could note down any words they would like to discuss with their teacher.



This is space for the children to complete any tasks that have been set that week.

Reading Discussion: Did you read any great books over the summer holiday?

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Calling all Secret Storytellers!



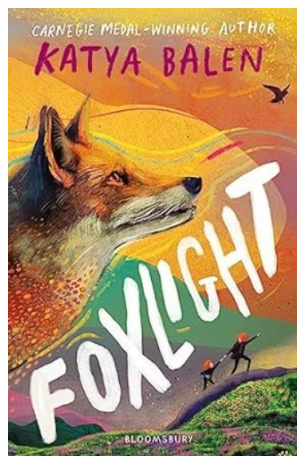
Here at Berkeley, we are always so grateful to have the support of family members when it comes to reading. As always, we would love for you to volunteer to be a **Secret Storyteller**. This means you would come in at the end of the day and read to your child's class. You can bring a suitable book of your choice, or the teacher will be happy to make a choice for you. Please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if this is something you would like to do.

Book Review: Mrs Marsh

This book is narrated by a young girl named October. She lives an unusual existence 'off-grid' in the woods with her father, and loves her wild and free life. This is until dad has an accident that changes everything – an accident that October unintentionally causes. October's peaceful existence is turned upside down as she faces guilt over her father's accident, and as she has to move to the city to live with her very estranged mother. The setting descriptions throughout this book are beautiful, captured through the wonderful words on the page but also through the stunning illustrations by Angela Harding. This is a book that I know I will want to read time and time again. It is no wonder that it won the Yoto Carnegie Medal in 2022. Very well deserved. A wonderful read.



Other delightful reads by Katya Balen.



Foxlight.

Winner of the
Wainwright
Children's Prize
2024

Suggested reading
age: 8 to 12.



The Light in Everything.

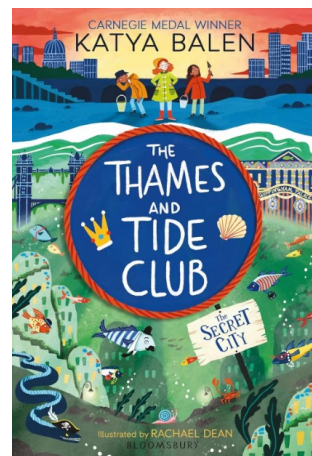
Shortlisted for the
Yoto Carnegie
Medal 2023

Suggested reading
age: 9 to 11.



Birdsong.

Suggested reading
age: 9 to 12 years
old.



The Thames and the Tide Club: The Secret City.

Suggested reading
age: 7 to 9 years
old.

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